GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2166
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
FUNDS FOR POLIO IMMUNIZATION
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being spent by the Centre on Pulse Polio Immunization scheme every year;

(b) whether the Government has recently convened a meeting of the State Health Ministers to review the situation in the country;

(c) if so, the details of discussions held and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to completely eradicate polio from the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a): The amount being spent by the Centre on Pulse Polio Immunization scheme every year is annexed. Rs.1064.61 crore was spent in the year 2006-07 and during 2007-08 there is a budget provision of Rs.1341.48 crore.

(b)&(c): Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Union Health Minister convened a meeting of the Health Ministers of polio affected States − Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Uttaranchal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Delhi Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh on 6th June, 2007 to discuss the issues and actions required by the State Governments for achieving the goal of zero polio transmission at the earliest. The Health Ministers of the states assured that they are committed for eradication of polio from the country and necessary actions will be taken by the respective states to sustain good quality immunization rounds during the upcoming polio immunization campaigns.

(d): For eradication of polio following measures are being taken :

National immunization rounds were conducted in the month of January and February 2007. Supplementary immunization round in March, April, May, July & August, 2007 in UP, Bihar and other high risk districts were conducted.Monovalent oral polio vaccine 1 (mOPV1) is being used in the high risk districtsa and States to enhance immunity so that the circulation of P1 virus can be interrupted.For containing P3 polio virus circulation immunization rounds with monovalent Oral Polio vaccine 3 (mOPV3) was conducted in March, 2007 (in 4 districts of Western UP), tOPV round in April, 2007 & mOPV3 round in July, 2007 in 18 Western UP districts.Migratory populations from UP and Bihar are being identified in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and these migratory children are being covered during the SNID in UP and Bihar starting from August, 2007.Social Mobilization activities are being intensified by involving the local influencers, community and religious leaders to improve community participation and acceptance of polio vaccine.State political leadership and administration are continuously being updated on the identified gaps in the implementation of the Program, they in-turn are constantly monitoring the progress with the District Administration.The District Magistrates are taking corrective action through the District Task Force formed to accelerate the program implementation.Improved micro planning in all areas to ensure maximum coverage.In the States of UP and Bihar new born children is being identified and vaccinated during polio immunization campaigns and tracked for several subsequent rounds.In order to reach every eligible child during the pulse polio round, apart from the strategy of vaccinating children at fixed booths and house to house visit, efforts in vaccinating children in transit at railway stations, inside long distance trains, major bus stops, market places, religious congregations, major road crossings etc. through out the country have been intensified.To ensure vaccination of missed children, Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) have been involved.Efforts are being intensified to remove misconceptions and rumors among certain sections of the community about the use of oral polio vaccine.

Annexure

The Amount being spent by the Centre on Pulse Polio Immunization scheme during the last five years

Years	(Rs. in cores)
2002-03	432.11
2003-04	659.94
2004-05	925.00
2005-06	918.07
2006-07	1,064.61
2007-08	409.75

(as on date)